

AN ORDINANCE BY
COUNCILMEMBER H. LAMAR WILLIS

04-○ -1198

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IX, DIVISION 3 BY
ADDING SECTION 2-974 DIRECTING ALL COMMISSIONS AND AGENCIES
OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA TO IMPLEMENT AN ONLINE SYSTEM FOR
COLLECTING MONIES TO BE USED IN ADDITION TO THE PRESENT
METHOD OF COLLECTION.

WHEREAS, the implementation of online bill paying will result in overall cost savings by cutting down on postage, labor, and paper costs.

WHEREAS, online bill collection will ensure the on-time payment for all services, resulting in a better cash flow.

WHEREAS, the citizens of Atlanta can currently bank online and pay bills for private utilities online.

WHEREAS, the Atlanta website is currently set up to receive online credit card payment for delinquent solid waste bills and parking tickets.

WHEREAS, by allowing customers to pay all bills, court fees, taxes, and other services online, the city will be able to provide greater customer service in offering customers the options of automatic withdrawal from their bank accounts and/or online credit card payment and 24-hour access to their billing records.

WHEREAS, the number of U.S. households that viewed and paid bills online during 2003 is 18.9 million, an increase of 12.2 million from 2002, and the number is projected to increase substantially within the next five years.

WHEREAS, cities across the country, including Charlotte, NC; Cincinnati, OH; Dallas, TX; Denver, CO; Minneapolis, MN; Mobile, AL; Tallahassee, FL; and Tampa, FL, currently offer online bill paying services for public utilities.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA** as follows:

SECTION 1

Section 2-974 shall be added and read as follows:

All commissioners and officials charged with collecting monies for the city shall implement an online system where payment may be collected online and statements may be sent electronically. Citizens making payments to city services and receiving statements from the same shall have the option to choose to make

all transactions electronically instead of using the standard method of payment/collection.

SECTION 2

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3

The commissioners and city officials shall have one year from the date of passage to implement the online collection service.